

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) An industrial controller for integrating a plurality of automation components in a uniform running level model of a respective runtime system of the industrial controller, comprising a uniform configurable running model for a control task of the industrial controller which can be configured flexibly wherein the running model receives a main clock, and means for providing said main clock to said running model, wherein said means for providing said main clock select a main clock from a plurality of clock sources, wherein said plurality of clock sources include at least: by selecting one of the clock sources from the group of clock sources consisting of: an internal timer of the industrial controller, an internal timer of a communication bus, a clock source within an external device, and a clock source within a technological process.

7. (Previously Presented) An industrial controller according to claim 6, wherein the running level model comprises a plurality of system levels and user levels which can be prioritized.

8. (Previously Presented) An industrial controller according to claim 6, wherein user level tasks can be loaded into at least one user level.

9. (Previously Presented) An industrial controller according to claim 8, wherein the user tasks can access an overall functionality of the industrial controller.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for the integrating a plurality of automation components in a uniform running level model of a respective runtime system of the industrial controller, comprising the steps of:

- flexibly configuring a uniform running model for a control task of the industrial controller wherein the running level model receives a main clock, and

- providing said main clock to said running model by selecting one of the clock sources from the group of clock sources consisting of: an internal timer of the industrial controller, an internal timer of a communication bus, a clock source within an external device, and a process event within a technological process.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the running level model comprises a plurality of system levels and user levels which can be prioritized.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein user level tasks can be loaded into at least one user level.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the process event are clock signals generated by a clock source within the technological process.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the clock signals are a work clock of a production machine or of a packing machine.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein user tasks can access an overall functionality of the industrial controller.